

# Annual Report

July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015

A. DISTRICT NAME Gasconade County  
Address 314 S. Olive Street  
Owensville, MO 65066  
Telephone Number 573-437-3478 ext 3  
Fax Number 855-842-7890  
Manager's  
Email Address [diana.mayfield@swcd.mo.gov](mailto:diana.mayfield@swcd.mo.gov)

## B. CURRENT SUPERVISORS as of June 30, 2013

**Chairman**  
Dennis Berger  
Address 809 Hillcrest  
Owensville, MO 65066  
Phone Number 573-437-3262  
Yrs. On Board 2009-Present **Area II**  
Email Address [denbobsplace@hotmail.com](mailto:denbobsplace@hotmail.com)

**Vice-Chairman**  
Mike Haeffner  
Address 1320 Hwy 100  
Morrison, MO 65061  
Phone Number 573-294-0016  
Yrs. On Board 2011-Present **Area I**  
Email Address [mhaeffner@centurytel.net](mailto:mhaeffner@centurytel.net)

**Member**  
Debra Nowack  
Address 1515 Mint Springs Road  
Owensville, MO 65066  
Phone Number 573-646-3477  
Yrs. On Board 2011-Present **Area III**  
Email Address [debra.nowack@mo.usda.gov](mailto:debra.nowack@mo.usda.gov)

**Treasurer**  
Matthew Estes  
Address 2162 Hwy 50  
Rosebud, MO 63091  
Phone Number 573-368-0442  
Yrs. On Board 2013-Present **Area IV**  
Email Address [ball1@fidmail.com](mailto:ball1@fidmail.com)

**Secretary**  
Matthew Herring  
Address 116 W Main  
Union, MO 63084  
Phone Number 636-583-5141  
Yrs. On Board 2012-Present  
Email Address [HerringM@missouri.edu](mailto:HerringM@missouri.edu)

## C. MEETINGS

Number of SWCD Board Meetings Held: 11  
Number of Special Meetings Held by Board: 0

ANNUAL MEETING -Open House  
Number Attending: 148

OTHER INFORMATION EDUCATION MEETINGS (specify type)

TYPE	No. of Meetings	No. Attending
Forage & Beef Conference (Sponsorship)	1	145
Equipment Workshop/Farm Tour	1	50
Tri-County Grazing School (Sponsorship)	2	37

D ACTIVITIES

CONTESTS

	No. of Schools	No. of Entries
Poster Contest	7	378
Envirothon (Sponsorship-Central Region)	18	90

AWARDS

	Name
Family Cooperator Award	Vera & Todd Nicks Family
Volunteer Award	Gary & Sharon Mace
Partnership Award	Owensville Walmart

PUBLICITY

DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

ISSUES/YEAR	CIRCULATION
2	850
WebSite (e-mail notification list)	235

	Number of
Radio Ads	2
Newspaper Articles	60
Public Displays	2
Web Page	updated regularly

Gasconade Republican, Hermann Advertiser, Bland Courier,  
Cuba Free Press

TOURS AND FIELD DAYS

Type of Tours and Field Days	No. of Tours	Attendance
4th Grade Field Day	1	120
Preschool Demonstration	2	27
River Relief Project	2	160
OMG WIA Event	1	208

RENTAL AND SALES

Equipment Type	Rental Fee	No. of
John Deere 10' Drill/acre (10 acre minimum)	\$10/\$9*	363.4
Great Plains 7' Drill/acre (10 acre minimum)	\$10/\$9*	232.2
Rotowiper/day	\$25.00	4
Burn Equipment/use	\$10.00	1
ATV Equipment/day per piece	\$20.00	3
ATV Warm Season Grass Seeder/day	Free	2

\*Over 50 acres

Items Sold by District	Donation
Flags	\$ -
Plat Books	\$2,350.00

Soil Probe/use	Free	13
Audio Equipment/use	Free	2

E.

OTHER

No. of Cooperators Waiting for Service:

Average Time Waiting for First Contact: 1-2 days

Were accomplishments presented to county commission? Yes

Was budget presented to county commission? Yes

F.

CURRENT DISTRICT STAFF

Name	<u>Diana Mayfield</u>	Job Title	<u>District Program Specialist II</u>
Phone Number	<u>573-437-3478 ext 3</u>		
Start Date	<u>20-Jan-00</u>	Termination Date	<u>                    </u>
Email Address	<a href="mailto:diana.mayfield@swcd.mo.gov">diana.mayfield@swcd.mo.gov</a>		
Current Hourly Wage	<u>\$14.59</u>	Hours Worked Per Year	<u>2080</u>
Primary Staff Contact Y/N	<u>Yes</u>		

Name	<u>Kory Hubbard</u>	Job Title	<u>District Technician II</u>
Phone Number	<u>573-437-3478 ext 109</u>		
Start Date	<u>22-May-12</u>	Termination Date	<u>8-Jul-15</u>
Email Address	<a href="mailto:kory.hubbard@swcd.mo.gov">kory.hubbard@swcd.mo.gov</a>		
Current Hourly Wage	<u>\$14.15</u>	Hours Worked Per Year	<u>2080</u>
Primary Staff Contact Y/N	<u>No</u>		



**Gasconade County  
Soil and Water Conservation District**

**Narrative Report 2015  
July 1, 2014– June 30, 2015**

The Gasconade County Soil and Water Conservation District's (SWCD) primary goal for the county is to conserve our natural resources. All programs and related activities are based on reaching the goal of "T".

Gasconade County SWCD programs and activities encourage participation by the public, which include our children, who will be the future leaders of our nation. Some of the activities and programs of the district, which are funded by Administrative funds and local funds include:

- **Tri-County Grazing School** - The grazing school is hosted by the Osage, Maries, and Gasconade County FOSA. The meeting was held in Vichy, MO, on September 4 – 5 with 37 landowners in attendance. This school is a requirement for the State Cost-share Grazing System Management program.
- **OMG Women in Ag Event** –On September 11, 2014, the first Annual Osage, Maries & Gasconade (OMG) Counties Women in Ag Event was held at the White Mule Winery with the theme of "Be Well. Be Strong. Be Ag." The committee for this event included staff from FSA, NRCS, SWCD, and Extension from all three counties. Sponsorship funds were received from many different sources. There were 208 registered attendees. Charles Schlottach (Landowner) gave a history of their farm and how it has progressed over the years into the operation of the Winery, Bed and Breakfast, and cattle farm that it is today. Stressing how vital it is to have family participation. Robin Adkison and April Adkison-Farmer were also speakers and they brought humorous health and well-being advice into the agriculture picture. There were 27 agricultural vendors on site and they provided door prizes for the attendees. The meal that was prepared by the White Mule Winery was outstanding.
- **Equipment Workshop & Farm Tour** –We had 50 registered attendees at our September 11, 2014, Equipment Workshop & Farm Tour at the Steve and Scott Hobein Farm. We had four local equipment vendors on site to talk about the new and improved products out there. District Staff, as well as NRCS and MDC staff, was on hand to demonstrate the local equipment that is available for use by landowners in the county. Every one loaded up onto trailers to tour the grazing system that is established on the farm. A highlight of the tour was the solar panel pump system that is in pumping water up to the high line and providing an excellent source of water for the cattle from an existing clay pit. The landowners were also shown a field where the district Rotowiper had been utilized earlier to address undesirable weeds in an existing paddock. The district provided an evening meal for everyone to enjoy at the end of the tour.
- **4<sup>th</sup> Grade Field Day** – The District organized and sponsored their fourteenth 4th Grade Field Day on October 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. The Owensville/Gerald students (120) were able to attend on October 1<sup>st</sup>; however, the Hermann schools were rained/stormed out on the 2<sup>nd</sup>. (This is only the second time, we have been rained out.) The Hermann students did receive their information packets, soda and ice cream. The students were allowed to visit eight different educational stops on the Brenda Kurrelmeyer Farm north of Owensville, MO. The lunch for the students and staff was provided in part by donations from local businesses. Conservation Agent Jason Eikermann presented the lunch time program by discussing animal pelts and the animal's habits.
- **River Relief Project** – The Gasconade/Montgomery County NRCS/SWCD staffs were on hand to man an information/education booth for the River Relief Project. We presented a talk on Watersheds and careers in Conservation. There were 160 students that attended this event over the two day period. Because of the rains and the fluctuation of the river flood stage the children were unable to get out on the river and pick up trash. There were 6 information/education booths and then the children were also allowed to tour two local historical venues.
- **Forage and Beef Conference** – The Forage and Beef Conference for the area was held in Cuba on March 2<sup>nd</sup> with approximately 145 people in attendance. An evening meal was provided at the end of the conference. The producer panel discussed their pasture usage and their reducing hay production. There were several vendors at this event, who donated door prizes that were presented throughout the course of the evening. We had two SWCD staff members, two Board Members and four NRCS personnel at the meeting, who helped with set up/down and registration.
- **2015 Annual Meeting** – This year's Annual Meeting was held at the Owensville Middle School on April 9<sup>th</sup>. There were 148 people in attendance. The meal was catered. Our guest speaker, Cindy Thompson, MO Department of Ag – AgriBusiness, spoke on the MO AgriBusiness Program and how it can assist our local landowners. Our Conservation Family Award was presented to the Vera Nicks



Family, Volunteer Award went to Sharon & Gary Mace, and the Partnership Award was presented to the Glen Ely, Manager of the Owensville Walmart.

- **Poster Contest** - This year's (2015) theme was "Local Heroes – Your Hardworking Pollinators." The poster contest is open to any student in Gasconade County in Grades 2 thru 8. There were 378 posters from 7 schools. The awards were presented at the Annual Meeting. The Top three posters from grades 2-3, 4-6, and 7-8 will be forwarded to the State Level Competition.
- **Day with Pre-school** – District staff gave a presentation to two of the local preschools on April 17<sup>th</sup>. The staff assisted the students in making "soil babies" and then discussed how our food can be traced back to soil using the "Hamburger" demonstration tool borrowed from Osage County. The staff presented to 27 young students. The staff and students really enjoyed this project and have had very positive feedback from parents and students alike.
- **Soil Judging Competition:** The GCSWCD District Technician assisted NRCS with a soil judging competition on March 17<sup>th</sup> at the Ben Branch Conservation Area.
- **Regional Envirothon Competition:** The GCSWCD District Vice-Chairman, District Manager and District Technician assisted with the regional Envirothon Competition that was held on April 8<sup>th</sup> at the Runge Center in Jefferson City. There were 18 teams participating with 90 students. The District Manager is now a member of the planning committee with a role in test preparation, material provider for new teams and the treasurer. The local schools have been contacted (high school counselors and STRIVE coordinator) about trying to become active participants in this exciting competition.
- **Partnership Support:** The GCSWCD District Manager is the lead NRCS Earth Team Volunteer coordinator for the new FOSA which now includes Cole, Gasconade, Maries, and Osage County. She is also the lead office supply coordinator for the FOSA. She is assisting NRCS with their Data Management System uploads for the EQIP and CSP contracts.
- **Community Support:** The GCSWCD District Manager was the lead person for the USDA Service Center participation in the Feds Feed Families Program.

The District still owns a 10 ft. John Deere no-till drill, a 7 ft. Great Plains no-till drill, an ATV sprayer, seeder, and disk, and a Rotowiper. The District also has burn equipment and soil probes available for public use. An ATV Warm Season Spreader is available free of charge.

A semi-annual newsletter was mailed to approximately 850 cooperators at each mailing this past fiscal year. The newsletter is now located on the District Web site. We are currently sending the newsletter via e-mail to 235 landowners. The purpose of this newsletter is to make the landowners more aware of district goals, programs, and accomplishments in controlling soil erosion, water quality, etc. The newsletter also contains information and events for the cooperating partners - Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Farm Service Agency (FSA), and Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC). The funding of this newsletter has been made possible by the soil and parks tax and local funding.

The Soil and Water Conservation District co-sponsored the Mid-MO Grassland Competition. The District sent two staff members and one Board Member volunteered to assist with the Regional Envirothon, which serviced 90 high school students.

Elections for Area I and Area III were conducted. The nominating committee for Area I consisted of Dale Ridder, Dallas Erfling and Curtis Koelling. The nominating committee for Area III consisted of Rena Gerloff, Doug Meyer, and Gene Rademacher. The election was held on April 9<sup>th</sup> with Area I candidates being incumbent Mike Haeffner and Chelten Hasty and Area III candidates being incumbent Debra Nowack and Glen Boettcher. Both Mike Haeffner and Debra Nowack were re-elected for a second term.

The District Staff works with NRCS to assist with the Federal Programs that are being implemented.

The NRCS, FSA, MDC, University Missouri Extension, County Contractors, the County Commission, and county and state public officials continue to be very supportive of the District.

A combination of the news media, radio, a District Newsletter, website, correspondence, and personal contacts are used to keep the public informed of state programs and Board sponsored activities.

Based on the new resource concerns, the following have been claimed: Sheet/Rill & Gully (\$3,062.57) Grazing System Management (\$40,854.16); Woodland Erosion (\$23,176.48); Sensitive Area (\$15,954.57) The District has claimed \$83,047.78 which is 41% of our fiscal year allocation of \$203,449.00.

Two office personnel and three supervisors attended the State Training Conference held on December 10-12. The District initiated one Resolution in regards to the current Health Insurance situation, which passed overwhelmingly.

The Annual Plan of Action is followed monthly as a guideline for district activities during the year. The District is continually looking for educational opportunities. The district follows the federal guidelines for Civil Rights and Equal Opportunity. They review these policies annually with NRCS.

The Gasconade County Board of Supervisors meets regularly on the first Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. The agenda for each meeting is posted in the USDA Service Center on the Wednesday before each meeting. The County Commissioners, Natural Resources Conservation District Area Staff, and the Department of Natural Resources are invited to each meeting and any visitors wishing to attend the meetings are encouraged to do so. The County Commissioners have attended quite frequently as well as the DNR District Coordinator.

The Board of Supervisors continues to stress the need for soil and water conservation and they are very conscious of their responsibility of being faithful stewards of tax payer dollars.